UN

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1992 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF GERMANY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1992 FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ADDRESSED TO THE MEMBER STATES OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT CONCERNING THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

I have the honour to send you herewith the official text of the letter dated 8 February 1992 from the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany addressed to the member States of the Conference on Disarmament concerning the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this text as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and arrange for its translation into the other languages of the Conference.

(Signed) Dr. Adolf Ritter von Wagner
(Ambassador)

GE.92-60511/8873a

Excellency,

The participants in the Geneva negotiations on Chemical Weapons set themselves in their mandate the goal of successfully concluding the Convention in 1992.

This year offers us the opportunity to achieve the aim to which we publicly committed ourselves on 11 January 1989 at the Paris Conference: "To prevent any recourse to chemical weapons by completely eliminating them". We can fulfil the high expectations we placed in this Convention only through joint action. Our representatives at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament have already achieved consensus on major sections of the rolling text of the Convention. The remaining issues now call for joint efforts. I am convinced that we can reach consensus on the Chemical Weapons Convention in this year's negotiations, and I would ask you to give this goal, which affects mankind as a whole, your personal attention.

The Federal Republic of Germany whose representative at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament has this year assumed the chairmanship of the negotiations for the first time, is aware of the special responsibility this entails. I should like to convey my sincere thanks for the confidence your country placed in us through this election. The Federal Government will do all within its power to seek the successful conclusion of the negotiations, if possible by the middle of this year.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Hans-Dietrich Genscher
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany